

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Friday, March 10, 2006

Visalia Convention Center

303 East Acequia Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291

Board Meeting: 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Public Forum for Tulare County: 9:30 AM – Noon

Local Officials Roundtable: Noon – 2:00 PM

– Summary of Meeting Proceedings –

Board Meeting

Friday, March 10, 2006

I. Call to Order

Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak welcomed attendees and called the meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley to order at the UC Merced Center, University Square, Bakersfield at 9:40 AM.

She introduced Rosario Marin, the new Secretary of State and Consumer Services Agency, as a new member of the Partnership Board.

She introduced Deputy Co-Chairs Fritz Grupe and Supervisor Connie Conway who also made welcoming remarks. Supervisor Ray Watson was introduced and welcomed attendees to Bakersfield on behalf of the Kern County Board of Supervisors.

Self introductions of those attending followed.

II. Approval of Minutes from the December 9, 2005 Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes the December 9, 2005 as provided. Secretary McPeak noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus.

III. Discussion of the Revised Vision Statement

Copies of the revised vision statement for the Partnership were distributed. After a brief review a motion was made and seconded to approve the vision statement as revised. Secretary McPeak noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus. The revised vision statement is as follows:

The San Joaquin Valley will be a cohesive region composed of unique communities and a diverse population that is supported by a vibrant economy built on competitive strengths and sufficient resources to provide a high quality of life for all residents now and in the future.

This vision can best be achieved through public-private collaboration integrating actions and investments into a coherent strategy that commits immediate and sustained leadership to accomplishing specific objectives that moves towards accomplishing long-term goals.

IV. Briefing on the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan and Proposed Budget

Copies of the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan and proposed budget were distributed. Agency secretaries and spokespersons for involved state departments provided information on elements of the Plan and budget. Discussion followed.

V. Discussion of the Final Strategic Action Proposal

Secretary McPeak presented an outline of the final report for the Strategic Action Proposal that is to be submitted to the Governor from the Partnership by November. The goal is to give an overview and summary of the issues in each county, and using a similar structure provide information on the region as a whole. A template will be prepared by the Great Valley Center and provided at the next quarterly meeting in June. Also, in order to look at overlapping issues a conference call will be scheduled with all the conveners for the Work Groups before the next Partnership meeting to discuss areas of collaboration between Work Groups.

The outline was accepted as a working document and amended (see attached amended outline) to include an overview of the socio-economic demographics of each county and the San Joaquin Valley as a region in comparison to the state and nation.

VI. Reports from the Work Groups

Economic Development Work Group

Supervisor Jeff Grover reported on behalf of the Economic Development Work Group. Their concentration is in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship development, competitiveness of target industries (health care, manufacturing and food processing), market development for renewable energy, streamlining the local planning and permitting processes and providing capital incentives and influencing state policy. At the December Partnership meeting the Work Group announced an application for a WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) grant to the US Department of Labor for \$5 million. Unfortunately, this application was not successful. However, the process provided valuable feedback for the future.

Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group

Supervisor Jeff Grover reported on behalf of Larry Fortune for the Work Group. The Higher Education Work Group emphasis is on developing expanded vocational training, increasing college attainment levels, providing increased access to baccalaureate education, and focusing on health care and medical education. The challenge is to provide for actual jobs created by existing local employers.

Transportation and Telecommunications Work Groups

Ray Dezember reported for the Transportation and Telecommunications Work Groups. Consensus on proceeding with interstate designation for Highway 99 was reached through negotiations with all eight SJV Councils of Government. Caltrans will develop a timeline for internal work to “cluster” design exceptions and will present recommendations to the Work Group at a future meeting. The pilot projects at the Tipton and Turlock rest areas including wireless internet access, wireless kiosks, and a web portal displaying regional tourism information are scheduled to open within 60 days. The design competition for the GreenStop©, a sustainable, green, context-sensitive design has attracted more than 160 national and international competitors. The entry period closes mid-April with the jury making their award-winning selections from the finalists on May 10th during the Great Valley Center’s annual conference.

The Work Group requested that the Partnership Board support a resolution on short sea shipping and a \$1 billion for improvements to Highway 99. Members of the Governor’s cabinet and their representatives recused themselves from the discussion and motion that followed.

Resolved that the Board request Business, Transportation, and Housing, the Air Resources Board, and other appropriate state agencies and commissions support further study of “Short Sea Shipping” to determine if/how it might contribute to the economic, environmental, and transportation needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

A motion was made to approve the transportation work group resolution on Short Sea Shipping. Chairman Grupe noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus:

Resolved that the Board request the \$1 billion of funding for Highway 99 currently in the Governor’s proposed infrastructure bond be moved to the section inclusive of projects of statewide importance. It is also recommended the request underscore the importance of responsive, responsible oversight of allocation of bond proceeds.

An amendment was requested to include a request that CEQA exemptions be considered for safety improvements.

A motion was made to approve the transportation work group resolution on Highway 99 funding as amended. Chairman Grupe noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus.

Land Use, Housing and Agriculture Work Group

Supervisor Victor Mow reported for the Land Use, Housing and Agriculture Work Group. Working with GIS maps developed by the Information Center for the Environment, the group has evaluated several models for urban development alternatives for the region. The maps, population projections and other data will be available on the Great Valley Center website (www.greatvalley.org)

Health and Human Services Work Group

Fritz Grupe reported on behalf of the Health and Human Services Work Group. The group has formulated a new vision statement: *San Joaquin Valley residents will have the opportunity to enjoy a high quality of life as measured by timely access to necessary health care and social*

services, an environment that supports healthy lifestyles, and safe, nurturing communities that embrace the cultural diversity of the region.

Meetings with the county health directors and county welfare directors are planned. They are looking at ways to reduce the amount of paperwork currently required to get uninsured children into the system.

K – 12 Education Work Group

Mayor Alan Autry reported for the K-12 Education Work Group. The Group has met with all county superintendents and is relying on them to communicate with district superintendents in each county. The focus is on improving the quality of teachers through continued professional development and a unified framework for intervention when schools are not progressing.

At the end of Mayor Autry's report Secretary McPeak noted that Work Groups had individually identified a great deal of current legislation that impacted priority items being studied by the Partnership. She requested that the Partnership work with the Valley legislative delegation to compile a comprehensive list of all legislation relative to Partnership work.

Attached are the written Work Group reports submitted by the conveners.

VII. Discussion on Selected Work Groups

Air Quality and Environmental Protection Work Group

Pete Weber reported on behalf of the Air Quality and Environmental Protection Work Group. More than 70 individuals are now involved with the group. The main focus of the group is finding ways to reach the 2013 air quality goals set by the federal government. Mr. Weber reported that the issue is not technology; air mitigation technologies exist; however, affordability of these technologies is an issue for most businesses. Recommendations on increasing affordability include establishment of a Valley-Wide Air Quality Enterprise Zone, acceleration of the gross-polluting vehicle replacement program, retrofitting diesel engines to run cleaner, and a reevaluation of mass transit options for the Valley are included in a 200-page report that the Work Group is preparing.

Fritz Grupe presided as Chair during the discussion that followed, which centered on actions requested of the Legislature and Administration that could be supported by the Partnership Board in conjunction with their recommendations. All members of the Governor's cabinet and their representatives recused themselves from the discussion.

Two documents were distributed: A resolution supporting the establishment of Air Quality Mitigation Zones and a resolution supporting a low income reimbursement for the retirement of old vehicles.

Members of the Governor's cabinet and their representatives recused themselves from the discussion and motion that followed. Following discussion, a motion was made to support the following resolution to the establishment of Air Quality Mitigation Zones:

Resolved that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley support the concept of creating Air Quality Mitigation Zones (AQMZ) in economically disadvantaged areas within California air basins with non-attainment designations for particulates of PM 2.5 and/or PM 10 and non-attainment designations, using the 8-hour ozone rule, of serious, severe or extreme.

The purpose of such AQMZs will be to provide financial incentives to incent capital expenditures, based on specified criteria, in: (a) early adoption of technologies to reduce stationary and mobile source emissions; and (b) development, production and use of clean energy technologies. Financial incentives would include state income tax credits, accelerated depreciation, low-and-zero interest loans and loan guarantees. Designations would be made by the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. Certification of non-attainment would be made by the relevant Air District, which also would be responsible for program monitoring and verification of compliance with program goals. AWEZ designation would be for a period of seven years and may be renewed subject to reapplication.

Members of the Governor's cabinet and their representatives recused themselves from the discussion and motion that followed. Chairman Grupe noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion of low income reimbursement for retired vehicles followed. A motion was made to support the following resolution to initiate a pilot project for low income reimbursement for retirement of old vehicles:

Resolved that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley supports implementation of a five-year pilot project for the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to incent the retirement and replacement of "high-emitter" or "gross polluting" vehicles owned by low-income families.

Low-income families are those with household incomes below 225% of the federal poverty level. Under the proposal, low income owners who retire a model year 1985 or older vehicle and acquire a low-emission vehicle would be eligible for a \$2,000 reimbursement for a "high-emitter" vehicle or a \$4,000 reimbursement for a "gross polluter" vehicle. Vehicles would have to be registered in the air basin for the past 36 months and driven on a regular basis. Emission reductions generated by this program would not be used for marketable credits or to offset another entity's emission reduction obligations.

Chairman Grupe noted no objection and the motion passed by consensus.

Attached is the written report submitted by the Air Quality Work Group for consideration by the Partnership Board.

Water Quality, Supply, Reliability and Energy Work Group

Dave Zoldoske was introduced by Paul Boyer and reported on behalf of the Water Quality, Supply and Reliability and Energy Work Group. The Work Group title was changed to include the word "energy" because 20% of the state's energy is used to pump water, with 5% of that used for agriculture. Major goals include support for a high quality water supply for growing urban areas in the region while maintaining an adequate supply for agriculture. A build up of

salts in agricultural lands on the west side is a concern, as well as providing for value-added agriculture such as canneries, wineries, cheese making and other food processors.

Questions and discussion of the topic followed.

Attached are the background materials submitted by the Work Group for the discussion.

VIII. Report from the Federal Interagency Task Force

Rollie Smith spoke on behalf of the Federal Interagency Task Force. He announced that the Task Force will disband at the end of 2006 unless the Congressional Delegation from the Central Valley decides to continue it. A final report will be prepared for the White House regarding the work accomplished. The work begun by the Task Force that relates to economic development, air quality, water, energy and housing will be carried on by the respective agencies in conjunction with the Partnership.

IX. Updates from Designated Liaisons

Barry Hibbard reported on behalf of the Economic Strategy Panel. The panel is chaired by Secretary Bradshaw and is the integration point for economic development policy at the state level. The panel is currently focusing on the manufacturing value chain and is working to redefine manufacturing in California to include the logistics industry and related technology. The panel's report on manufacturing is due June 30, 2006.

X. Schedule for 2006

The next meeting will be held April 6 in Kings County and April 7 in Fresno County and will include public forums in both locations as well.

XI. Other Business

Josh Franco reported that student government representatives from all colleges and universities in the Central Valley were being contacted and invited to attend the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley meeting scheduled for June 2006.

XII. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned on April 6 in Bakersfield at 12:30 PM for the Kern County Roundtable Discussion with local elected officials and the Public Forum and reconvened at 8:30 AM on Friday, March 10 in Visalia. The Partnership Board Meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM on Friday, March 10 for the Tulare County Public Forum and subsequent Roundtable Discussion with local elected officials.

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
March 10, 2006
Visalia, California

Board Meeting Attendees

Board Members Present

Local Elected Officials

Mayor Alan Autry, City of Fresno
Councilman Paul Boyer, City of Farmersville
Councilwoman Marcelyn Buford, City of Hanford
Supervisor Connie Conway, County of Tulare
Supervisor Jeff Grover, Stanislaus County
Supervisor Gary Gilbert, Madera County
Supervisor Victor Mow, San Joaquin County

Civic Leaders

Ray Dezember, Bakersfield
Larry Fortune, Fortune Associates
Fritz Grupe, The Grupe Company
Coke Hallowell, San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust
Jose Rivera, Kaiser Permanente
Fred Ruiz, Ruiz Foods
Lorraine Salazar, Sal's Mexican Restaurants

Cabinet Secretaries

Victoria Bradshaw, Secretary, CA Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Mike Chrisman, Secretary, Resources Agency
Sunne Wright McPeak, Secretary, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Cabinet Designees

Jamie Fall, Labor and Workforce Development Agency
Trina Gonzalez, Health & Human Services Agency, for Secretary Belshe
Jonnalee Henderson, Department of Food and Agriculture, for Secretary Kawamura
Ricardo Soto, Office of Secretary of Education, for Secretary Bersin
Cindy Tuck, California Environmental Protection Agency

Board Members Not Present

Mayor Michael Amabile, City of Los Banos
Kim Belshe, Secretary, Health & Human Services Agency
Councilwoman Susan Benham, City of Bakersfield
Alan Bersin, Secretary of Education
Sheila Carroll, Ross F. Carroll, Inc.
A. G. Kawamura, Secretary, Department of Food & Agriculture
Rosario Marin, Secretary, State & Consumer Services Agency
Sharron Thornton, The Grass is Greener Landscape Management

Designated Officials

Appointed Liaisons

Pete Weber, ANRON International, Fresno, Liaison to the Federal Interagency Task Force

Other Key Partners

Supporting Agencies

Heidi Arno, Great Valley Center

Mark Keppler, The Maddy Institute, CSU Fresno

Carolyn Lott, Great Valley Center

Mike Lynch, Great Valley Center

Rollie Smith, Operations Specialist, US Department of Housing & Urban Development

Ashley Swearengin, Executive Director, Central California Futures Institute

Jim Tischer, Regional Program Manager, Center for Water Technology

Carol Whiteside, Great Valley Center

Other Guests

Elected Officials

Assemblyman Juan Arambula

Phil Cox, Board of Supervisors, County of Tulare

Jesus Gamboa, Mayor, City of Visalia

Cameron Hamilton, Council Member, City of Porterville

Allen Ishida, Board of Supervisors, Tulare County

Ren Johnson, Director, Tulare County Office of Education

Pamela Kimball, Council Member, City of Lindsay

Pedro Martinez, Mayor, City of Porterville

Assemblyman Bill Maze, Visalia

Rich Ortega, Mayor, City of Tulare

Steve Worthley, Board of Supervisors, Tulare County

Community Leaders

Matt Ainley, Civil Engineer, Quad Knopf

Elliott Balch, Assemblyman Arambula's Office

Bill Balsley, General Manager, KVLP 101.5, Visalia

Marge Balsley, KVLP Radio 101.5

Quirino Banuelos, Director, Proteus, Inc.

Ginny Barker, District Director to Assemblyman Bill Maze

Marilyn Barr, Executive Director, CASA, Tulare County

Sandy Beals, Food Bank, Tulare County

Linda Beattie, EDD, Workers Investment Division

Andrew Benelli, Assistant Director, Public Works, City of Visalia

Marylou Berlsery, League of Women Voters

Anne Bernardo, Director, East Tulare County Public Law Library

Julia Blanton, California Department of Food and Agriculture

Sandy Box, Colours in Motion

Victor Box, Colours in Motion
Penny Bullick, Tulare County Health Services Agency
Ray Bullock, Tulare County Department of Health
Aubrey Cairns, Maddy Institute, CSU Fresno
Carol Cairns, Assistant City Manager, Visalia
Peter Carey, Self-Help Enterprises
Jane Carroll, Fresno County Workforce Investment Board
Sherry Carson, Tulare County Economic Development Corp.
Brad Caudell, Executive Director, Tulare County Farm Bureau
Scott Cochran, Tulare County Association of Governments
Wayne Collins, Director, Farm Services
Mike Cully, President, Visalia Chamber of Commerce
Terry Curley, Tulare County Health and Human Services
Joseph Cusenza, President, Reynen Bardis Communities
Bill DeLain, Southern CA Edison Company, Tulare Cty.
John Delmatier, Proteus, Inc.
Theresa Del Monaca, Visalia Times Delta
Joe Enea, Government Instructor, College of the Sequoias
Annie Esperanza, Air Resources Specialist, Sequoia Kings County National Parks
Renee Ezell, Center for Independent Living, Visalia
George Finney, Tulare County Association of Governments
Ken Fisher, CSU Fresno, International Ctr. For Water Technology
Jeff Forbes, United Way, Tulare County
Christine Foster, Tulare County Asthma Coalition Care
Harry Foster, President & CEO, Family Healthcare Network
Brooke Frost, First Five Tulare County, Children's Health Initiative
Kyle Goddard, Visalia Chamber of Commerce, Government Affairs Specialist
Trina Gonzalez, CA Health and Human Services Agency
Victor Gonzalez, Tulare District Hospital Board
Don Goodyear, President and Superintendent, College of the Sequoias
Kathryn Griffith, Center for Independent Living, Visalia
Brian Haddix, County Administrative Officer, Tulare County
Joe Hailey, Visalia Unified School District
Natalie Hanes, Tulare County Workforce Investment Board
Sharon Herbert, KMS Mechanics, Pixley
Edith Hernandez, Enecomm
Ernie Hernandez, United Way of Tulare County
Annaly Herrera, VHCC, Dinuba
Ralph Hinds, Executive Director, Dinuba Chamber of Commerce
Sherry Hubert, City of Exeter, Finance Director
Angela Huerta-Reyna, Director, Imagine U Children's Museum, Visalia
Sue Smiley Janecek, Director, Research & Development, San Joaquin Valley College
Gil Jaramillo, Executive Director, Tulare/Kings County Chamber of Commerce
Eric Johnson, Director, AT&T
Ron Johnson, Director, Tulare County Organization for Vocational Education
Bob Keenan, BIG Coalition
Carolyn Kehrli, Cutler-Orosi Unified School District

Gary Kunkel, Tulare County Ag Commission
Sue Lafferty, Kings/Tulare Building Industry Association
Mike Lane, Self-Help Enterprises, Visalia School Board
Rikki Leigh, Tulare County Workforce Investment Department
Mike Lincoln, representing Congressman Radanovich
Kyle Loreto, Deputy Chief of Staff, Fresno Mayor's Office
John Madrid, City of Fresno, Mayor's Education Office
Graciela Martinez, American Friends Service Committee, Farm Labor Program
Kevin Matteson, Tulare County Office of Education
Bill Mayerwald, CA Water Service Company, Visalia
Jennifer McCoun, President & CEO, Tulare Chamber of Commerce
Olivia Mendoza, Tulare County Workforce Investment Board
Laurie Mercer, Tulare County Redevelopment Agency
Michael Miller, City of Tulare Engineering
Jan Minami, Executive Director, Downtown Visalians
Stephanie Moen, Project Director, Tulare County Asthma Coalition
Lali Moheno, Tulare County Hispanic Roundtable
Betty Morehead, Pixley Chamber of Commerce
Colby Morrow, Southern California Gas Company
Judy Nevis, Central Valley Office Director for the Governor
Patty Norman, Director of Facilities, Visalia Unified School District
Dean Onojeros, Produce Incorporated
Rose Ortega, Family Healthcare Network
Susan Pasquini, Director, Tulare Adult School
Jason Pausma, Planning Manager, Visalia
Art Pena, Pena's Disposal
Raul Pickett, El Futuro Credit Union, Porterville
Lyle Pines, Dinuba Chamber of Commerce
Marie Pinto, Tulare Adult School
Dennis Pollock, Fresno Bee
Mike Porte, Grubb & Ellis Pearson Commercial Real Estate
Jason Powells, Reynen Bardis Communities
Ravi Ramalingam, CA Air Resources Board
Louise Rambo, KMS Mechanics, Pixley
Luke Reynolds, Community Affairs Specialist, FDIC
Carolyn Rhodes, Tulare County Community Services, Employment and Training
Terry Ricard, Public Health Director, Kings County
Matt Rogers, representing Assemblywoman Nicole Parra
Katy Rominger, Tulare County School Board
Heriberto Rosales, Rural Communities Corporation, West Sacramento
Frank Ruiz, Tulare County Redevelopment Agency
Darryl Rutherford, CA Coalition for Rural Housing
Jessie Ryan, Community Organizer, Campaign for College Opportunity
Paul Saldana, Tulare County Economic Development Corp.
Larry Segrue, Architect, Visalia City Planning Commission
Donnette Silva Carter, President & CEO, Porterville Chamber of Commerce
Bonnie Simoes, City of Tulare

Jan Smith, Writer
Joan Sollenberger, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Stan Stein, Tulare County Health Community Services
Jim Sullins, County Director, UC Cooperative Extension, Tulare County
Brian Thoburn, Southern CA Edison Company
Sherry Tietjens, Tulare County Association of Realtors
Stanley Tom, Valley Small Business Development Corporation
Teri Van Huss, Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Randy Wallace, Tulare County Office of Education
Gary Waller, Visalia Inventory Service
Bob Williams, Chief of Police, Visalia
Robert Williams, Chief of Police, City of Visalia
Linda Womak, City of Porterville Community Development Services
Elizabeth Wright, Tulare County Association of Governments

Public

Morgan Anjin, Visalia
Don Beecham, Visalia
Janet Beecham, Visalia
Aubrey Cairns, Clovis
James Chesnut, Visalia
Wayne Clark, Pixley
Tyler Eaton, Student, Visalia
Josh Franco, UC Merced Student
Mark Fulmer, Visalia
Bob Green, Visalia
Walter Green, CSU Fresno Student
Tracey LaMonica, Visalia
Phil Mirwald, Visalia
Marissa Parrinello, UC Merced Student
Herman Rodriguez, Student, Visalia
Mary Ruben, Real Estate Investor, Visalia
D'anne Williamson, Visalia
Ray Wolf, Visalia